



AUSTRALIAN OFF ROAD COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting held at CAMS National Office
August 2nd & 3rd 2008

Present: John Paterson (Chairman), Ben Erceg (Deputy Chairman), Marilyn Emmins, Daniel Rogers, Bruce Waldron, Sue Zettl, Robert Piper (CAMS Board Member), Campbell Andrea (CAMS Manager - Off Road /Secretary), Janah McLean (Minute Secretary).

Visitors: Morrie Williams (Technical Commissioner), Werner Zettl

Apologies: Russell Innes

Meeting start: 9.25am

1. OPENING

John Paterson thanked the members of the Australian Off Road Commission for their attendance, and welcomed them to the meeting.

1.1 Additional Agenda Items

The following were accepted as additional agenda items:

- Fire Extinguishers
- Single Event License
- Organisers Meeting
- Forward Facing Headlights
- Hall of Fame
- Regrouping

The agenda was approved.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Approval for the previous minutes

OR1077 It was moved by D Rogers/ M Emmins that:

The Minutes of last meeting held March 1st and 2nd 2008 be accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting.

2.2 Decisions made between meetings:

The Off Road Manager noted that the CAMS Safety 1st Strategy had been launched and details of the package and revised checklists are now on the CAMS website for use by organisers.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Board Members Report

Mr Piper provided the Commission with a report. He noted that the CAMS Organisational Review was currently in the process of being finalised and that the next step is to circulate the proposed changes back to the state councils for further comment.

3.2 State Delegate Reports

QLD

As Mr Innes was absent Mr Paterson reported on his behalf.

Mr Paterson noted that there had been no major issues in the state and things seemed to be running smoothly.

NSW

Mrs Zettl provided a report to the Commission via email.

Mrs Zettl's noted that like in other states an increased cost of living due to the increased Interest rates and cost of petrol were forcing competitors to pick and choose their favourite or closest events only. She also stated that a few have planned to run the National Tri-Series instead of the State Championship and a few are building or rebuilding new vehicles and so have not been racing.

The NSW State panel now meets every three months instead of every six weeks, with any matter requiring attention emailed out between meetings, next meeting is the third weekend of August.

VIC

Mrs Emmins reported that the Panel was continuing to meet every second month. There were originally four state rounds calendared, however the first round was cancelled due to low entry numbers. Mrs Emmins also noted that Victoria had two rounds in the AORC in 2008 but Victorian entries remained comparatively low. She also noted the appointment of the new CAMS Victorian Sport and Club Development Officers and advised that they will attend their next panel meeting. Mrs Emmins also advised the Commission that the Sea Lake Malley Rally had celebrated 35 years in 2008.

TAS

No report had been provided for Tasmania however Mr Paterson advised that he was not presently aware of any issues arising in that State.

SA

Mr Waldron reported that there had been five events run so far this year. Entries were down on last year however it is believed this was due to a number of cars currently being built. The SA Panel meet monthly and seem to be working well. One issue the panel were currently discussing was the issue of head clearances and what to do with older cars.

3.3 Finance Report

The Off Road Manager presented the finance report.

3.4 Officials Report

Mrs Emmins gave a report. AORCom noted the resignation of T Payne from member Services and that a new person had been appointed in the National Office to look after Training and National Officiating.

It was noted that there had been a considerable improvement in the license renewal process times mainly due to the appointment of new staff in the licensing department.

3.5 Technical Commissioner Report

Mr Williams provided the Commission with a report and advised that 2007 had been a reasonably routine season.

Fuel testing continued however there had been no problems and the competitors continued to be very approachable.

Noise testing remains an issue amongst competitors and the Commission. AORCom along with CAMS are to continue investigations in order to find a satisfactory resolution to the issue.

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 Future Standard of Apparel

A revised recommendation was presented to AORCom from the CAMS Technical and Homologation Manager for comment.

OR1078 It was moved B Erceg/ S Zettl that:

It be recommended to the CAMS Technical and Homologation Manager that the apparel proposal as it applies to Off Road be amended as follows:

Overalls **Race Suit** (one piece)

Flame-retardant material **Minimum single layer to SFI 3.2A/1 or FIA standard**

Gloves – FIA **highly recommended**

Off Road events of all levels are to comply with the "B" standard.

CARRIED

5/0/0

4.2 Noise Testing

The Commission discussed the issue of noise testing.

Mr Paterson noted that documentation had been received for consideration.

AORCom noted that in addition to the technical issues surrounding noise and its measurement, there is also an OHS & duty of care issue that relates not only to competitors but also to spectators, organisers and officials.

AORCom agreed to move forward with procedures and policy on the addressing of noise testing. The Commission are to meet later in the year via teleconference to finalise a position on this matter.

This will be communicated to competitors and organisers well ahead of commencement of the 2009 season.

5 AUSTRALIAN OFF ROAD CHAMPIONSHIP

5.1 AORC Sporting Regulations

CAMS will circulate draft 2009 AORC Sporting Regulations to the Commission for comment.

ACTION

JM

5.2 Tri Series

AORCom discussed the inaugural 2008 AORC Tri Series and agreed that it had been a success. Over 40 competitors registered for the series this year and many crews are still in the running for the title/s with two rounds of the series yet to be run.

AORCom agreed that the Tri Series is to run again in 2009 and eligibility requirements will be the same as those in 2008.

It was also agreed that registration for the Tri Series is to be completed in conjunction with AORC and National Competition Number Registration.

ACTION

JM

5.3 Trophy Karts

Mr Paterson provided the Commission with an update on the progress of the Trophy Kart class.

OR1079 It was moved by B Erceg/ M Emmins that:

The frame specification of Mr Simpson's Trophy Kart be approved on the basis of the two engineer reports that have been received and that the remaining

specifications of the car are to be finalised in conjunction with Paul Simpson and that these be included in an official CAMS recognition document to which the cars shall be required to comply with.

CARRIED

5/0/0

AORCom noted that at this stage, Mr Simpson is recognised as an 'Authorised Manufacturer' – presently the only one. Should another person or organisation wish to manufacture vehicles to participate in Trophy Kart competition, they must comply with the following:

- An application must be made to AORCom
- The vehicles must match the specification of those manufactured by Mr Simpson
- The application must be accompanied by a report from an engineer complying with the requirements of GR9 which demonstrate the frame to be used is in compliance with the relevant strength requirements (tests are available upon request).

5.4 AORC Event Evaluation

The 2008 AORC Event Evaluation reports to date were presented to the Commission.

OR1080 It was moved by M Emmins/ S Zettl that:

AORC observer and Stewards reports be sent to the Australian Off Road Commission as soon as possible after all AORC rounds.

CARRIED

5/0/0

5.5 AORC Survey

The Chairman briefed the Commissioners on the results of the survey distributed by CAMS regarding the number of rounds to be conducted in 2009.

It was noted that the next survey should be aimed directly at state and club level competitors and events.

5.6 Outside Assistance

OR1081 It was moved by B Erceg/ M Emmins that:

Assistance for competing crew from persons in helicopters be permitted specifically for the purpose of assisting in an emergency situation only.

CARRIED

5/0/0

5.7 AORC/National Number Registration

OR1082 It was moved by M Emmins/D Rogers that:

AORC Registration and Registration of a National Competition Number be included on one form for 2009.

CARRIED

5/0/0

OR1083 It was moved by M Emmins/B Erceg that:

Registration for the 2009 Australian Off Road Championship (including the Tri Series where applicable) be priced at \$50.00 and that the Registration of a National Competition Number be an additional \$50.00.

CARRIED

5/0/0

In order to be eligible to score points in the AORC a competitor must register for the AORC and also register a National Competition number. This will be reflected in the 2009 AORC Sporting Regulations.

5.8 AORC Pointscore

It was noted that at present there are some issues in knowing who is driving each vehicle in what section which can have a bearing on the AORC point score.

OR1084 AORCom RESOLVED that organisers are required to have in place a monitoring system which establishes who is in each car in what capacity (i.e. Driver, Co-Driver, Navigator). This may entail coloured wrist bands are to be mandatory at AORC level. An event official will be required to monitor and report back to the Clerk of Course should any issues arise.

OR1085 The Commission also RESOLVED that where it is not possible to achieve completion of 75% of the event then 50% will be accepted.

5.9 2009 Calendar Recommendation

A recommendation was received from Mr Dieter Von Mollendorf in relation to the calendar. AORCom thanked Mr Von Mollendorf for his recommendation and advise that it has been referred to ORRinc for further consideration.

5.10 2009 AORC Calendar

Applications for the 2009 AORC calendar were submitted to the Commission. AORCom considered all of the applications received.

OR1086 It was moved B Erceg/M Emmins that:

Subject to approval by the Board of CAMS, the following rounds will comprise the 2009 Australian Off Road Championship calendar:

- Rd 1** Hyden - WA 11/12 April (Easter)
- Rd 2** Alice Springs - NT 6/7/8 June
- Rd 3** Mildura - Vic 25/26 July
- Rd 4** Millicent - SA 5/6 September
- Rd 5** Goondiwindi – Qld 17/18 October

AORCom also decided that all five rounds would count in the point score which

is a change from previous years. In order to keep the championship alive until the last round, the Goondiwindi event will continue to attract a bonus of 1.5 times the regular points on offer.

* Note: The calendar is subject to ratification by the Board of the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport Ltd.

CARRIED 4/0/1

NOTE: Mr Rogers abstained from voting on this item due to his involvement in the Hyden event.

OR1087 It was moved M Emmins/ D Rogers that:

All five rounds of the 2009 AORC are to count towards the outright and class championships for Drivers and Co drivers/Navigators.

CARRIED 5/0/0

5.11 2009 Organisational Requirements

OR1088 It was moved M Emmins/ B Waldron that:

The 2009 Organisational Requirements be forwarded by e-mail to the organising clubs of AORC rounds not later than 31st October each year.

CARRIED 5/0/0

5.12 Prologue Seeding

OR1089 It was moved B Erceg/D Rogers that:

CAMS provide an automated spreadsheet to organizers to assist in seeding the prologue for each AORC event.

CARRIED 5/0/0

ACTION: JP

5.13 Class Champions

A recommendation was put forward to the Commission by Mr Paterson regarding the recognition of AORC Outright and Class Winners.

OR1090 AORCom RESOLVED that:

- It be recommended to the Board of CAMS that the winning driver and co-driver of each Off Road Class be recognised as a CAMS Champion. Class Champions are to be recognised at State dinners.
- In doing so, the Class Championship (which is presently established from a comparison of points of all classes) be deleted.

- The AORC Outright Driver/Co Driver and Tri Series Outright Driver/Co Driver are to be invited to attend the CAMS National Awards night.

Mr Piper is to approach the CAMS Board on behalf of AORCom proposing that AORC second and third placed outright crews be listed in the CAMS Manual in addition to the Champions.

6. OFF ROAD STANDING REGULATIONS

6.1 Course Marking

A recommendation was received from the Manager of Off Road regarding Course Marking.

OR1091 AORCom RESOLVED to refer the recommendation back to their State Panels.

7. OFF ROAD VEHICLES

7.1 Extreme 4WD Capacity Limit

Mr Paterson advised there had been some interest expressed by people presently competing in winch challenges to compete in Off Road but who were prevented from doing so due to modifications that had been undertaken to their cars, in particular engine capacity.

OR1092 AORCom RESOLVED that it would consider a proposal from potential competitors from the 4WD/winch challenge fraternity should they wish to compete in off road events.

7.2 Speed

AORCom discussed the issue of high speeds at Off Road events. It was noted that terminal and average speeds are increasing. It would appear that as a result of what is perceived as a lack of competitiveness some competitors are considering investing in alternate frames and engines.

It was agreed that this is an issue of importance from a number of perspectives that the sport needs to consider and address.

A working group to address the issue comprising Mr Erceg, Mr Waldron and Mr Rogers will be established. The working group will take into account the various means of reducing speed available to it and feedback from competitors, initially generated from an article for the CAMS website and E Newsletter.

It was agreed that if any significant technical regulation change was to be implemented there would need to be suitable lead time to achieve that, with a potential time line of .

7.3 Side Intrusion Survey

The Commission revisited the issue of side openings. It was agreed there are a number of vehicles with large side openings.

Mr Erceg and Mr Waldron to come back to AORCom with a recommendation following an event at Minaka which will then be distributed to State Panels for feedback. An email vote by the

Commission will then take place with a view to implement regulations that will come into effect from 1st January 2009.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 Medical/Emergency Response

Mrs Emmins submitted a recommendation to AORCom following concerns regarding the formalisation of safety plans at off road events.

AORCom noted that organizers need to ensure that safety plans are submitted along with their event Supplementary Regulations at the time of application for permit approval.

OR1093 It was moved M Emmins/B Waldron that:

All AORC round organisers are to submit a copy of their 2009 safety plan for consideration and that the Event Checker is to approve the safety plan of the event. This is to be added into the 2009 AORC Organisational Requirements.

CARRIED 5/0/0

It was moved M Emmins / _____ that:

A more substantial safety plan complying with Type A should be submitted to CAMS for any long course event or higher.

The motion lapsed for want of a seconder.

OR1094 AORCom *RESOLVED* that Off Road Panels and organisers of long course events be asked if they feel that the current safety checklist is adequate for their level of event to respond to an emergency. Feedback is required to AORCom for an email vote on 31st October 2008 for possible effect for Jan 1st 2009

The Commission noted that the subsequent recommendation should be backed up by a Targeted Risk Assessment following the feedback submitted by State Panels.

Mr Paterson is to email his version of the safety plan to Denise Strawbridge for feedback.

ACTION

AORCom/JP

8.2 Off Road Licence Lecture

Mrs Emmins noted with concern that some new participants in the discipline don't seem to be aware of the fundamentals of off road racing and that it was important that crew briefings cover the fundamentals of Off Road Safety such as signs and emergency procedures.

8.3 Officials Licences

Mrs Emmins commented that under the new CAMS Centralised Permit System there is a potential that in the case of a State Championship level event a novice / recently accredited

Bronze Event Command person to hold the role of Clerk of Course. This may represent an unacceptable risk.

OR1095 AORCom RESOLVED that the Clerk of Course for each Club or State level event be approved by their relevant state panel as part of the calendaring process and this requirement be outlined in the relevant sporting regulations or organisational requirements.

Mrs Emmins also noted to the Commission that it was the intention of the CAMS Permit Administrators to standardise Supplementary Regulations for Club and Multi Club level events.

8.4 Commissioner Roles

Mr Erceg spoke to the Commission regarding Commissioner roles and the need for individual members as well as AORCom as a whole to take on more responsibility.

The Commission agreed that an article should be written for offroadracing.com and various other media publications detailing the Commissioners and their role upon approval of the Commission for 2009.

After issues relating to access at events over the past 12 month AORCom RESOLVED to amend Article 19.1 of the Organisational Requirements allowing Commissioners the same access as the AORCom Chairman. A sample of the hard card is also to be inserted in the document.

Mrs Emmins agreed to remain the Commissions delegate to check Supplementary Regulations for 2009 should she be reappointed to the Commission.

8.5 Proxy Voting

OR1096 It was moved D Rogers/M Emmins that:

It be recommended to the Board of CAMS that on the condition leave of absence is granted by a consensus of those present, an absent Commissioner may nominate a proxy to vote on his/her behalf, to a Commissioner who is present.

CARRIED

5/0/0

It was noted that the AORCom Terms of Reference need to be updated to reflect the above motion upon the approval of the Board.

8.5 ORRinc

A draft statement of purpose for ORRinc was distributed to the Commission by the Chairman and noted by AORCom. This will be further considered by ORRInc.

8.6 Fire Extinguishers

AORCom recognised that there was no section in the CAMS Manual specifically outlining the requirements/standards for Fire Extinguishers in Off Road.

OR1097 It was moved D Rogers/ S Zettl that:

A new Article 7 be added to Schedule H as follows:

7. Off Road

Each automobile in an off road event must be equipped with one or more fire extinguisher/s which complies with the following conditions and is properly fitted at a suitable location:

(i) it must comply with Australian Standard 1841 (save that extinguishers which meet AS1841.2 are not permitted).

Note that Halon extinguishers (1201 or 1311, including BCF) are not permitted under civil legislation;

(ii) it/they must have a combined capacity of at least 1.8kg;

(iii) it must remain restrained under an acceleration of 25G;

(iv) it must be capable of removal by the driver without the aid of tools.

A plumbed-in system homologated by the FIA may be fitted in addition to the above.

And that GR 11 be amended as follows:

GR 11 FIRE EXTINGUISHER

Each vehicle must be equipped with one or more hand-held fire extinguisher/s complying with Schedule H (refer to Section 6 of the CAMS Manual of Motor Sport). ~~with a combined capacity of at least 1.8kg.~~

~~A plumbed-in system homologated by the FIA may be fitted in addition to the above.~~

~~The use of BCF extinguishers is prohibited.~~

CARRIED

5/0/0

The Commission had some queries regarding the fire extinguisher bracket requirement. Following further reference to the CAMS Manager – Technical and Homologation subsequent to the meeting, it was agreed to maintain the requirement.

8.7 Single Event Licences

Mr Piper briefed the Commission on a proposal he had received regarding the reinstating of Single Event Licences. Mr Piper will email the proposal to the Commission with a view to submitting a recommendation to the CAMS Board.

8.8 Organisers Meeting

The Commission discussed the benefits and positive feedback following a meeting with organisers of the 2008 AORC events earlier this year.

OR1098 It was moved M Emmins/ D Rogers that

The 2009 Organisational Requirements state that a delegate must be sent to an organisers meeting once a year from events accepted as rounds of the AORC.

CARRIED

5/0/0

It was noted by the Commission that ORRinc or a representative of ORRinc should also attend this meeting.

8.9 Forward Facing Headlights

Some correspondence had been received in relation to this new regulation relating to forward facing headlights.

The AORC Technical Commissioner recommended to the Commission that forward facing headlights be switched on at all times and that a minimum of one should be working at the start of each section.

OR1099 It was moved B Waldron/ B Erceg that:

Taking effect from 1st October 2008, amend Article GR 24, General Requirements for Off Road Vehicles be amended as follows:

GR 24 LIGHTING

All vehicles must be fitted with at least one rearward facing red stop lamp, of at least 21 Watts power. It is an offence to control the operation of the lamp other than by the foot brake.

Vehicles must also be fitted with at least one rearward facing amber lamp, of at least 18 Watts power and wired so that it operates at all times when the main power is switched on. No other switch is permitted.

Both lamps must be equipped with a bayonet-fitting globe, a sealed beam or Light Emitting Diode (LED). If LED dust and stop lamps are used, they must comply with ADR 6 and ADR 49 respectively. Both lamps must be fitted with a lens of at least 60cm² area. They must be mounted separately from any other rearward facing lamps, and be not lower than 200mm below the highest point of the vehicle, disregarding aerials, roof fin, number plate etc.

A penalty of exclusion shall apply for any action which inhibits the operation of any rearward facing lamp whilst the ignition is on, in addition to any other penalty which may be imposed by the Stewards of the Meeting.

The use of at least one headlamp will facilitate overtaking in dusty conditions.

Each vehicle must have a minimum of two white, minimum 50 watt (or equivalent LED), forward facing headlights fitted which ~~are able to be operated, at all times whilst competing in an off road event.~~ **shall be operational at the start of the event. At least one forward facing headlight shall be operational at the start of each subsequent section.**

The Clerk of Course may request **require** that headlights be switched on **during competition** at the event crew briefing or via event supplementary or further regulations.

CARRIED 5/0/0

8.10 Hall of Fame

A recommendation was received for the Off Road Hall of Fame.

OR1100 It was moved: M Emmins/ B Erceg that:

The proposed person* be inducted into the Off Road Hall of Fame.

CARRIED 5/0/0

*Note: The name has been withheld for the time being until the award can be made.

ACTION

CAMS

8.11 Regrouping

AORCom discussed the issue of regrouping at AORC events. A survey is to be compiled and distributed to selected AORC competitors and organisers/officials regarding regrouping. Feedback is to be considered by the Commission and added to the agenda for discussion at the AORC organisers meeting in February.

9 CLOSE

9.1 Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for February 21st & 22nd 2008.

The meeting closed at 12.00pm.